

STAT

Page Denied

STAT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THREE YEARS FORESTRY WORK IN NORTHEAST CHINA

[Comment: The following information is from a report given at the First Northeast Conference of Forest Workers by Yung Wen-t'ao, chief of the Northeast Forestry Department, published in the Peiping Chung-kuo Lin-yeh, 5 October 1952.

A basic estimate of the work done in the last 3 years shows that there has been a great increase in timber production, transportation, and afforestation.

Comparisons Reveal Progress

Timber production for 1952 is estimated to become 137 percent of that of 1943 while the amount of timber transported by forest railways in 1952 can reach 350 percent that of 1943. The construction of forest railways in 1952 is already 133 percent of construction before liberation. In water transportation of timber there has been an increase of 70 percent over that in the time of the Manchukuo regime, and the equipment for such transportation has been greatly improved.

In afforestation, the goal for 1952 is to plant trees on 260,000 hectares which is 332 percent of that done in 1943. The number of trees planted will be 1,150,000,000 which is 364.4 percent of the 1943 figure. The western forest protective belt was started in 1950. The plan for 1952 is to plant 84,000 hectares to extend this belt.

Forest land reserved as a protected area already amounts to 164,000 hectares. That which is cared for and that which can be expected to renew itself by the forces of nature amount to 143,000 hectares.

Fire loss has been gradually lessened. This has been due to organized protection of forests. The record for 1952 has so far been notable, with the fire loss of 1951 lessened by 99 percent.

Forest Production Restored and Extended

The Northeast forestry enterprise has fulfilled the national aim to restore and extend forest production. Several considerations indicate this.

The timber production task entrusted by the nation has been completed.

Scattered forestry work has been unified into one great enterprise in which over 80,000 employees form a great industrial army that is beginning to understand the techniques of the enterprise.

A reasonable logging plan has been instituted. Soviet specialists have suggested and have helped initiate the practice of leaving lower stumps, utilizing the tops of trees, and sawing lumber more intelligently. The percentage of lumber produced from tree tops and stumps was thereby increased from 55 percent of the optimum output in 1949 to a present rate [1952] of 70 percent.

The use of advanced techniques has raised the level of production and the level of effective management.

STAT

One improvement has been the use of a mixed logging team with certain units responsible for each stage in the process. This year [1952] the logging of 10,000 cubic meters of timber required 274 loggers while in the days of the Manchukuo regime 888 men were needed for that amount.

Water transportation of logs has been greatly improved with timber loss reduced to only 1.4 percent of the whole. Transportation by forest railways has also been expedited. The use of flat push-cars has increased production.

There is emerging an over-all afforestation plan with interest in the area as a whole, with stress on the slogan "Make the Northeast a sea of forests." In the Northeast the distribution of forests is very uneven. In Heilongjiang Province 34 percent of the land area is forested, but in Jehol and Liaohsi provinces forest land accounts for only .5 percent of the land area. During the last 3 years trees have been planted on 245,000 hectares in these provinces, with special emphasis on the western protective forest belt.

Planned forest management has been started with forest survey that in three years has covered 362,000 hectares.

All sorts of organizations have been effected, with training of cadres to advance the forest industry.

Faulty Management and Ideology Still Evident

The Suiyung Ya-tzu forestry railway spur was originally one kilometer long. It was extended to 3 kilometers to reach a timber pile. This pile held 200,000 cubic meters of timber but 400,000 cubic meters of timber were used to construct the railway spur.

At Chiao-ho, Kirin, a 40-kilometer forest railway was constructed. It was used to transport 300,000 cubic meters of timber and then was torn up.

Extravagant use of funds has also been quite common. Some of the higher cadres spent 40 million yuan in Northeast currency to rent a house at T'ai-yang-tao forest and for recreation.

Morale among the workers has been low. They have had no sense of now being the ruling masters. Employees were laboring for their wages, "serving the people's dollars" rather than serving the people's government. Some even spread propaganda for the American way of life using every device to encourage hatred of the USSR and love for the USA.

STAT